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Editor's Introduction Notes on Editing Acknowledgments

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Introduction

The Textile Society of America's 9th Biennial Symposium took place October 7–9, 2004, at the Oakland Marriott City Center Hotel in Oakland, California. The theme as reflected in the title, **appropriation • acculturation • transformation**, offered a stimulating approach to the study of historic and contemporary textiles from many cultures and diverse perspectives. Of eighty presentations in twenty-four sessions, seventy are represented in this CD-ROM. Sixty-seven authors have contributed sixty-two papers. Together with more than seventy abstracts, they reflect in text and image the substance and intellectual vibrancy that characterized this symposium.

Geographically, the San Francisco Bay Area is where East greets West, where the landmass of North America abuts the Pacific coast, a meeting point of cultures that comprise the Pacific Rim. Historically, the Bay Area has witnessed dramatic creativity in the textile arts: from the native peoples of California, world renowned for their basketry, through the early Spanish, Mexican, and Yankee settlers who traded local goods for silks from Asia and the Pacific, to the days of the Golden Gate International Exposition in 1939-1940 and the early work of Dorothy Liebes. More recently, the Bay Area has continued to attract people with a passion for fiber: the “Textile Revolution” of the 1970s was fueled by the contributions of Ed Rossbach, Lillian Elliott, Kay Sekimachi, Katherine Westphal and their followers.

An area with a long record of scholarly contrarianism and counter-cultural initiatives, this geographic nexus had spawned more than its share of debates about terminology surrounding *textiles*, *fiber arts*, and *textile arts*, and deliberative consideration as to how these concepts relate to more formally recognized and accepted arts.

At the Opening Reception, the Local Organizing Committee honored four “Living Legends” of fiber arts in the Bay Area: Dominic Di Mare, Kay Sekimachi, Lydia Van Gelder (who exhibited at the Golden Gate International Exhibition), and Katherine Westphal. They and other key players who contributed to the history and creativity of fiber arts in the San Francisco Bay Area provided a lively focus for this symposium.

Lead keynote speaker Jack Lenor Larsen presented a lucid synthesis of the national impact of California design, including the role played by textiles in the Bay Area, in relation to the movements of Modernism, indoor-outdoor lifestyles, and subsequent significant national cultural trends.

The plenary panel focused on the profound significance of textile arts and scholarship in the Bay Area. Providing an historical overview covering most of the 20th century, panelists addressed the seminal impact of the study of textiles, a subject taught at the University of California, Berkeley, from 1917–79 in a department variously called Household Arts, Decorative Arts, and Design.

Native American basket-maker Julia Parker, a Coast Miwok and Kashaya Pomo, shared her approach to practice that embodies respect for wisdom of the elders and awareness of its transmission in the preservation of traditions. She spoke of the importance of the environment and its bounty. In looking to the future, she reminds us of the urgent needs for both conservation and the effective utilization of resources.

Note on Editing

As to the content of this CD-ROM publication of the TSA 2004 symposium proceedings, each paper is published substantively as submitted. We have endeavored to bring all papers into a consistent visual format, with virtual interlacing offered by hypertext links between authors and bios, paper titles and abstracts, and an author index. The CD-ROM is fully searchable using the Adobe Acrobat Search Engine, installed with the disk. We hope these features provide easy navigation, and we welcome your thoughts on revisions for future publications of symposia proceedings ([see Evaluation](#)).

Authors retain copyright for their individual contributions. Authors were advised of their responsibility to secure permissions for their reproduction of photographs.

The editor wishes to thank all TSA 2004 speakers who submitted papers for publication of the proceedings. We sought to include all abstracts of papers presented; those presenters who responded to our request after the conference and submitted abstracts have been included. Abstracts and bios, arranged alphabetically by author, are also accessible at www.textilesociety.org.

Acknowledgments

Many generous individuals contributed time, thought, and energy to the publication of these proceedings. I wish to thank the following individuals, whose advice and guidance helped to provide quality and substance for this publication. Inez Brooks-Myers and Susan Tselos worked tirelessly to organize the 9th Biennial Symposium; they co-chaired the organizing committee. Active participants included Suzanne Baizerman, Deborah Corsini, Virginia Davis, Joyce Hulbert, Diane Mott, Barbara Shapiro, Deborah Valoma, Yoshiko Wada: Thank you all for the efforts you contributed towards facilitating this exciting event for TSA members. Jan Brown of Spokewise served as designer for printed materials of the symposium and generously provided design components for this CD-ROM and its packaging.

For preparation of the proceedings, Mary Dusenbury, Past President, and Pam Parmal, President, shared their wisdom and experience. Marjorie Senechal evaluated the process of organizing and publishing the TSA 2002 Symposium Proceedings. Karen Searle suggested modifications in contents and format based on TSA's initial experience with CD-ROM format in 2002. At The Textile Museum, Sumru Krody and Erin Roberts provided support and graciously shared their curatorial office space; Richard Timpson guided our use of information technologies, trouble-shooting as needed, and protecting us from many a serious error. Friends Jamy Sheridan and Peter Fitz also generously shared their computer savvy. A stellar editorial team included Arna Margolis, Jannes Gibson, Carol Ross, Lydia Fraser, and Amal Abu'l Hajj, who sustained a fruitful period of editorial collaboration that made tedious hard work fun to be shared. It is not easy to bring so many papers into uniformity (lest you thought otherwise, dear reader!). TSA's Publications Committee provided a thoughtful and supportive forum in which to address the penultimate challenges of pre-press needs and proof-reading.

Final thanks, which are really first and foremost, from us all to our speakers and presenters, now authors, without whose enthusiasm, dedication, commitment, spirit of inquiry and integrity we would not have the following papers to read about

appropriation • acculturation • transformation.